

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/926,148

Examiner

Salvatore Cangialosi

Applicant(s)

KUDO, TOSHIYUKI

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/09/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,6-8 and 10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10/10/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

S. Cangialosi
SALVATORE CANGIALOSI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 222

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Regarding independent claim 1, the prior art fails to show a method for electronic contract safekeeping including displaying a contractual coverage of a contract at a covenantee terminal connected to a contractor server storing information of the contractual coverage's; inputting contract agreement information representing whether agreeing to the contractual coverage or not at the covenantee terminal; inputting safekeeping agreement information representing whether agreeing to a safekeeping of the contractual coverage or not, at the covenantee terminal; when the contract agreement information agreeing to the contractual coverage is inputted; requesting a contract safekeeping server to store the contractual coverage, when the safekeeping agreement information agreeing to the safekeeping is inputted; issuing a contract ID for identifying the contract at the contract safekeeping server in accordance with the request; and transferring the issued contract ID from the contract safekeeping server to the covenantee terminal and the contractor server in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 10, the prior art fails to show a contractor server including a contractual coverage notifying unit configured to notify a covenantee terminal of a contractual coverage of a contract; a contract agreement receiving unit configured to prompt a user of the covenantee terminal to input contract agreement information representing whether agreeing to the notified

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contractual coverage or not, and receive the inputted contract agreement information; a safekeeping agreement receiving unit configured to prompt to the user of the covenantee terminal to input safekeeping agreement information representing whether agreeing to storing the contractual coverage or not, and receive the safekeeping agreement information, when the contract agreement information agreeing to the contractual coverage is inputted; a contract safekeeping requesting unit configured to request a contract safekeeping server to store the contractual coverage and to issue a contract ID for identifying the contract, when the safekeeping agreement information agreeing to the safekeeping is received; a contract ID receiving unit configured to receive the issued contract ID; a contract ID transferring unit configured to transfer the received contract ID to the covenantee terminal in the manner and complexity recited by the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and to avoid processing delays should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Salvatore Cangialosi at telephone number **(571) 272-6927**. The examiner can normally be reached 6:30 Am to 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by

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telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached at **(571) 272-6712**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to (703) 872-9306

Hand delivered responses should be brought to


United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 3600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is **(703) 306-5771**.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


SALVATORE CANGIALOSI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 222